**Tree Cookies Lesson:**

Day 1:  
Print out enough “Growth Rings”, “Tree Activity”, “My Tree Cookie Book”, and “TAKS help” worksheets for each student.

1. Distribute Growth Rings worksheet and have a class discussion:

* What do you think these are? What do you know about them?
* (Tree rings tell a story of what happened in the life of the tree and how old it is.)
* Which tree cookie do you think is the oldest? Why?
* Estimate the age of the 4 tree cookies.

1. Show students the 4 samples of tree cookies. **Try to use a document camera if you have one**. Ask them how they are different and similar.
2. Go to <http://www.wonderville.ca/v1/activities/trees/trees.html>
3. Take the tree cookie guide
4. Study each tree condition and discuss them
5. Begin the tree cookie game on the same site
6. Pass out and complete the TAKS question sheet
7. Create a tree cookie book (continue this through day 2) by cutting out the templates (8) and stapling the tabs together. Then have them draw an example of each tree cookie type. Label the back of each template with the correct name of the correct tree condition and write down what a description of that condition. They will need the help of the website again or a great classroom discussion. \*there are 6 conditions. The 8th template can be used as a back or have the student make a unique one that features two different conditions on one template like from the on-line game.

Day 2

1. Go back to Growth Rings worksheet and discuss what could have happened to those trees in their lives.
2. Hand out Tree Activity worksheet and use the overhead of this page to walk the students through the following:

* The outer ring is the present year. Count back from this ring to find the ring that represents the year when you were born.
* Draw a line from that ring to the outside of the cookie and print “my birthday” or draw a birthday cake. Continue with this exercise using personal experiences.